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Russians Doom 3 Estonians us War Criminals

MOSCOW, Jan. 20 (AP)—A Soviet court in Tartu in Estonia passed death sentences in absentia today on Karl Linnas and Edwin Viks on war crimes charges, Tass news agency reported. A third defendant, Yuhan Yuriste, also was sentenced to death.

Linnas is now in the United States and Viks is in Sydney, Australia, and refusal of the American and Australian governments to grant extradition is regarded as an act of disrespect of Estonian public opinion, Tass said.

Tass said the three defendants were accused of taking an active part in the killing of 12,000 persons in Estonia in World War II.

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